

Name:

Solutions / Answers

1. Use the limit as h approaches zero and the slope of a secant line to derive the slope function for the given function $f(x) = 2x^2 + 5$ at the point $x = a$. Show all the steps in the process very neatly and carefully. Do not rush through this.

Secant
slope

$$m = \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{a+h-a} = \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h}$$

Tangent
line
slope
function

$$m = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{2(a+h)^2 + 5 - (2a^2 + 5)}{h}$$

$$m = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{2(a^2 + 2ah + h^2) + 5 - 2a^2 - 5}{h}$$

$$m = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cancel{2a^2} + 4ah + 2h^2 + \cancel{5} - \cancel{2a^2} - \cancel{5}}{h}$$

$$m = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{4ah + 2h^2}{h}$$

$$m = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (4a + 2h)$$

$$m = 4a \quad \text{The slope function}$$

2. Use the limit as h approaches zero and the slope of a secant line to derive the slope function for the given function $f(x) = 3x^2 - 7x$ at the point $x = a$. Show all the steps in the process very neatly and carefully. Do not rush through this.

Secant
slope

$$m = \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{a+h-a} = \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h}$$

$$m = \frac{3(a+h)^2 - 7(a+h) - (3a^2 - 7a)}{h}$$

Tangent
line
slope
function

$$m = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{3(a+h)^2 - 7(a+h) - (3a^2 - 7a)}{h}$$

$$m = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{3(a^2 + 2ah + h^2) - 7a - 7h - 3a^2 + 7a}{h}$$

$$m = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cancel{3a^2} + 6ah + 3h^2 - \cancel{7a} - 7h - \cancel{3a^2} + \cancel{7a}}{h}$$

$$m = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{6ah + 3h^2 - 7h}{h}$$

$$m = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (6a + 3h - 7)$$

$$m = 6a - 7 \quad \text{the slope function}$$

3. Use the limit as h approaches zero and the slope of a secant line to derive the slope function for the given function $f(x) = x^3 - 4x^2$ at the point $x = a$. Show all the steps in the process very neatly and carefully. Do not rush through this.

$$m = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(a+h)^3 - 4(a+h)^2 - (a^3 - 4a^2)}{h}$$

$$m = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cancel{a^3} + 3a^2h + 3ah^2 + \cancel{h^3} - 4(a^2 + 2ah + h^2) - \cancel{a^3} + 4a^2}{h}$$

$$m = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{3a^2h + 3ah^2 + h^3 - \cancel{4a^2} - 8ah - 4h^2 + \cancel{4a^2}}{h}$$

$$m = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (3a^2 + 3ah + h^2 - 8a - 4h)$$

$$m = 3a^2 - 8a \quad \text{The slope function}$$

Name:

Solutions / Answers

1. Use the limit as h approaches zero and the slope of a secant line to derive the slope function for the given function $f(x) = 2 + 8x - 3x^2$ at the point $x = a$. Show all the steps in the process very neatly and carefully. Do not rush through this.

$$\begin{aligned} m &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{2 + 8(a+h) - 3(a+h)^2 - (2 + 8a - 3a^2)}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cancel{2} + \cancel{8a} + 8h - \cancel{3a^2} - 6ah - 3h^2 - \cancel{2} - \cancel{8a} + \cancel{3a^2}}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{8h - 6ah - 3h^2}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (8 - 6a - 3h) \\ &= 8 - 6a \quad \text{the slope function} \end{aligned}$$

2. Use the limit as h approaches zero and the slope of a secant line to derive the slope function for the given function $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$ at the point $x = a$. Show all the steps in the process very neatly and carefully. Do not rush through this.

$$m = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{a+h} - \sqrt{a}}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{\sqrt{a+h} - \sqrt{a}}{h} \right) \left(\frac{\sqrt{a+h} + \sqrt{a}}{\sqrt{a+h} + \sqrt{a}} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cancel{a+h} + \sqrt{\cancel{a^2} + ah} - \sqrt{\cancel{a^2} + ah} - \cancel{a}}{h (\sqrt{a+h} + \sqrt{a})}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h}{h (\sqrt{a+h} + \sqrt{a})}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{a+h} + \sqrt{a}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{a} + \sqrt{a}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{a}} \quad \text{slope function}$$

3. Use the limit as h approaches zero and the slope of a secant line to derive the slope function for the given function $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ at the point $x = a$. Show all the steps in the process very neatly and carefully. Do not rush through this.

$$\begin{aligned} m &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{a+h} - \frac{1}{a}}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{a}{a(a+h)} - \frac{a+h}{a(a+h)}}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{\cancel{a} - \cancel{a} - h}{a(a+h)} \cdot \frac{1}{h} \right) \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{-h}{a(a+h)} \cdot \frac{1}{h} \right) \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-1}{a(a+h)} \\ &= \frac{-1}{a(a)} \\ &= \frac{-1}{a^2} \text{ slope function} \end{aligned}$$